



LARC



Volume 48, Number 2

February 2008

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday February 7, 2008 - 7 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Orange—February 23, 2008

AARA Hamfest—March 21 & 22, 2008

Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

YL/XYL / Filly Net 146.820 - 600

Each Wednesday

Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery

Check 146.820 - repeater for info

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM

147.060 +600

1st & 3rd Friday, 1:00 p.m

HEAL Net 146.820 - 600

Happy Mardi Gras!

Well the month of January has passed and a few more of the things we've discussed at prior meetings have begun to come to fruition! Dick WA6MDI, Ed, WA5TNK and myself worked on the EchoLink project this past weekend.

Although we didn't get it working in quite the way we'd imagined, we did end up getting it on the air. As it stands now, we're needing a power supply, antenna, and a location with a steady internet connection that we can assure of having firewall access.

Herman's planning on some events for Mardi Gras next to the Salvation Army and is calling for volunteers or anyone who's interested in participating. Please get with him on this. Also, he's looking for someone to relieve him of the job of Door Prizes at the club meetings. Any volunteers for that can see him at the February club meeting.

I won't be able to attend the February club meeting. I will be traveling to Atlanta to participate in the CQ WPX RTTY contest with my friend Fred WW4LL at the contest station of W8JI, Tom Rauch. Those who read the computer reflectors and antenna books will notice Tom's call sign as being one always involved with antenna and amplifier design. I'm very excited about this opportunity, so it was one that I couldn't pass up.

At the February meeting, it will be election time. The Nomination Committee presented their choices for officers at the January meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor from the membership, elections will follow and new officers will be installed at the March meeting after the AARA Hamfest.

73

Charlie KI5XP

AARA Club President

AARA OFFICERS 2007-2008

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP

ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

Roland Guidry NA5Q

Nick Pugh K5QXJ

Danny Griffith K5ARH

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

Newsletter Editor

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

147.04 is on the Air with a New Controller.

Prior to the Christmas Holiday season, we had a problem with the 147.040 repeater being falsed on the air in the evening on December 22. This was a problem since the main people that had access to the site were all out of town. John, KA5BSE called me, it was 2 hours before I was able to get home, grab the key for the site, and once on scene, recycle the power switch and turn the system off the air. This problem was caused by the old controller and a lightning storm in the area.

Since then a different controller has been changed and so far the results are encouraging. The Link RLC 2 was the original controller used by this machine but several years ago the roof was blown off the building and the controller went through a total rain soaking. Link Communications of Billings Montana rebuilt this system late last year and it was returned to service on 147.04 a couple of weeks ago.

Since then the controller has continued to perform, but on Thursday 1/17 the transmitter developed a problem with low output power. This unit was taken to Service Communications and I am happy to report it was placed back into service on Friday 1/18 and is working.

Some Echo Link experimentation has been going on thanks to Fred, W5MLE who has been gracious enough to donate the use of his on channel radio and Echo Link system. We still have some tweaking to do to get the system fully operational.

I am still searching for a radio for the club to purchase and use with the Echo Link components we have already.

Stay tuned for further adventures!

Dick WA6MDI

AARA Vice President

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

New Ham Radio Classes Scheduled

The Children's Museum of Acadiana, in conjunction with the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, announces a spring ham radio licensing course. The course offers individuals, ages 10 and up, instruction and practice designed to enable them to earn a Technician-level license in ham radio.

This license will allow them two-way communication privileges in larger segments of the radio frequency spectrum than are available through unlicensed technologies such as CB radio and cellular phones.

The instructors welcome grandparents, parents, and children to enroll in the course and earn their technician's license together. The course will begin with an orientation session Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Class meetings will resume Thursday, March 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., continuing each Thursday through May 8, with the exception of April 24 when class will not meet in deference to Festival International. In addition to the one-time \$5.00 course fee, each student will purchase a \$25.00 manual and pay a \$14.00 fee for testing and license for a total of \$44.00.

We will be having a few rovers (mobile operators) who will be going through some parishes to help some of those who county hunt with some of the rarer parishes in Louisiana and we will be looking for more operators to work from the River corridor from Baton Rouge to New Orleans (a list of parishes not activated in the last 3 years is available at our website).

If you have any questions or comments, please check out our website and or email John AD5YP at laqso@bellsouth.net or Mike KC5OKP at kc5okp@hotmail.com.

Website for LAQSO Party:

http://www.qsl.net/kd5wdy/LAQSO_/laqso_.html

Louisiana QSO Party 2008

By Mike Robichaux—KC5OKP

Hello Louisiana Ham radio operators!

The Louisiana QSO party is coming up real soon! A chance for you to become the hunted contest style!

The QSO party is a way, to put Louisiana in the spotlight once a year for Amateur hams throughout the US and world.

We have some of the simplest rules in QSO party contesting; and encourage amateurs from throughout the state to come and join the on air get together.

Times are from 9 am - 9 pm CST (Local) on Saturday February 9th and will take place on the 6 major HF and 2 VHF ham bands centering on frequencies listed in our rules.

This year we are hoping to get participation from areas not heard from previously, including all parishes in and around Baton Rouge, New Orleans, the River Parishes as well as many of the lower populated parishes throughout Louisiana.

Editor's Note:

If you would like to join the AARA Club in operating in the LAQSO Party from the Lafayette Parish EOC, contact Ed Roy WA5TNK, John Martin KA5BSE, or Herman Campbell KN5GRK and we will get you clearance to get into the building.

This would also be a good opportunity for any new hams to get some hands-on experience of making contacts and seeing how a contest operates using some really nice equipment.

(continued on next column)

HEAL NET

Be sure to check in on the HEAL NET every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 PM local time on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette. Larry KE5KJD called the net for December and will appreciate anyone wishing to

November HEAL Net Report

DATE:	Medical Personnel	Guest	Medical Facilities	Time / Traffic
1/04/08	6	7	5	26 min/0
1/18/08	4	7	4	22 min/2

Upcoming Notable Events for 2008

February 5—Mardi Gras Parade

February 7—AARA General Meeting

February 9 & 10—LA QSO Party

March 21-22—AARA Hamfest
Rayne, Louisiana

June 28 & 29—Field Day 2008

More to follow in later issues for the LARC.

3 Generations Family of Ham Radio Operators

Rachel Comeaux, KB5SCV, Adult & Mom.

My Pastor, Brother Mike Pitre, WR5U, was instrumental in getting me started in amateur radio. He talked about the benefits of Amateur Radio and the need for operators. It attracted me as a way to spread the gospel. It seemed like a fun, Godly hobby that we could do together as a family. The technical aspect of radio appealed to me, because communication technology is the future. Understanding radio technology could assist my sons when they entered the workforce. My husband and I appreciate our local AARL chapter, Mr. Roland Guidry, Mr. Nick, and Ms. Cheri Valenti of the Children's Museum of Acadiana for providing the class, facility and testing materials. The class was very well organized and presented. The Children's Museum was a gracious host with an accommodating classroom. Everything was conducive to learning the material. We thank all who helped in this endeavor. Learning code is my next goal.

The following are brief testimonials from students attending the First Apostolic Church/School in New Iberia, Louisiana. Pastor Mike Pitre, WR5U mentor.

Rebecca Elise Roy, KD5WJJ, 12th Grade

After hearing talk of Ham Radio, I wanted to give it a try. It sounded like a lot of fun. If our telephones, cell phones, etc. ever went down, this would be a reliable source of communication. My mother and a few of my friends in school were getting involved. Our school encouraged us with trophies for whoever made the most foreign contacts. My parents encouraged me to keep it up. My plans are to upgrade to Morse code.

Robert DeBlanc Roy Jr. KE5RPC, 11th Grade

It is neat that Ham Radio allows you to talk with people around the world and make friends. My Pastor, Brother Pitre and Brother Wiley were instrumental in getting me started in Amateur Radio. My parents are very supportive of the idea of Ham Radio. Upgrading is in my plans.



Catherine Anne Roy, KE5RPH, 10th Grade

Amateur Radio seemed to be a very fun hobby and now that I am a licensee, I know 100% that it is fun. You can talk to people in real life and hear their real live voices, unlike email. It seems more personal. It also is a chance to talk to people all over the world, that otherwise you would never even know or talk to. Being a ham operator, I can help others in times of emergency, when I come of age. My Pastor, Brother Pitre, Mr. Roland Guidry NA5Q, Mr. Nick Pugh K5QXJ and the Children's Museum of Acadiana, School Teachers and my siblings helped get me started. A "special thanks" to all of them. My parents think this a wonderful hobby to get involved in. It is something that is very useful to spend my time on. Going all the way to the top is my plan, then taking Morse code. I encourage other people my age to come and get involved.



(continued on page 5, column 1)

Orange Hamfest 2008

Sponsored by:
Orange Amateur Radio Club
&
Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club



Date: Saturday, February 23, 2008

Time: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Place: VFW Hall

1 mile North of I-10

Talk-in: 147.180 PL turned off

Free Admission

VE Testing at 10:00 AM

Grand Prizes

1st—Kenwood TS480SAT

2nd—Kenwood TM271A

Tickets: \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for 6 or \$10.00 for 12, etc. Need not be present for Grand Prizes. You must be present for door prizes. Door prize tickets will be put back in the hopper for the Grand Prize drawings.

Food: The Ladies of the VFW will have coffee, soft drinks, and food available for your purchase Saturday.

Friday Night Dinner

All hams and their family, who are in town Friday before the Hamfest are invited to eat with us at the VFW Hall. Bar-B-Que Brisket, Links, and smoked Boudain, with all the trimmings. Bring your folding chairs and drinks. Starts at 7:00 PM. Donations support this dinner, so give freely if you want it to continue.

Info at:

<http://www.qsl.net/w5nd/>

48th ACADIANA HAMFEST 2008

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association is announcing our 48th Annual Hamfest and the 2008 ARRL Louisiana State Convention on March 21st and March 22nd, 2008 in Rayne, Louisiana.

Our Hamfest falls on Good Friday and Saturday this year, so we have adjusted our schedule to accommodate the ham community. The Hamfest will be open to the general public and ham community at 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Friday, March 21st and again at 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 22nd. Vendors, dealers and flea markets can begin setup from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Friday and 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. Saturday.

We have contacted the vendors/dealers and this new time is very good for them. The new time schedule will allow vendors and flea market participants, 2 extra hours to sell their products and give the ham community more time also to attend and be home with family afterwards.

Please view the attached Hamfest Flyer in PDF format or visit our web site www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/ for more information.

Please note that we will be having our annual Crawfish Boil, but no Fais-Do-Do in observance of Good Friday. Due to the high cost of crawfish at this time of year, we ask that those interested in attending the Crawfish Boil, pre-register no later than by March 1st, so we can lock in the price and quantity of crawfish we must purchase. There is no guarantee that Crawfish Boil tickets will be available on Friday, March 21st. As usual, Gumbo furnished by the Rayne High School Band Scholarship Fund Group will be available.

We look forward to seeing each of you this year and renewing our relationships. Next year, our hamfest will begin to fall on the usual dates of the 2nd weekend in March. So in 2009 our hamfest will be on March 13th & 14th, 2009 and 2010 will be on March 12th & 13th, 2010.

Happy New Year
73,
Roland, NA5Q
Hamfest Chairperson



2/3	JIM	N5NVP
2/4	WESTON	KB5WI
2/4	KEN	KD5YWB
2/14	TIM	N5RKK
2/16	GLENN	KD5NVC
2/16	LINDA	KE5HSY
2/17	ROBERT	N5OA
2/20	PHIL	KB5EKD
2/23	RICHARD	KE5LBV
2/23	NILES	KD5RKN
2/24	DANNY	KD5JSM



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some may not be on the list.

February 2008 Special Events & Contests

Feb 7-11	W8C—Michigan Tech Husky ARC—Winter Carnival 2008
Feb 9	SK7XN—Swedish Heathkit Club—Heathkit Activity Day, celebrating the birth of Howard Anthony
Feb 9-10	NI8G—Thomas Edison Memorial Radio Club—Celebrating Thomas Edison's birthday. Born in Milan, OH
Feb 11-15	W4LX—Celebrating Thomas Edison's birthday. Ft. Meyers, FL
Feb 21-23	W7G—Celebrating George Washington's birthday. George, WA
Feb 28	W5KID—USS Kid Launch Anniversary, Baton Rouge, LA

These are just a few of the Special Events & Contests Check QST or ARRL Website for details and QSL information.

Welcome New AARA Members

MITCHELL ROMERO	KB5TWL
GALE GUIDRY	KE5RPM
DONALD GUIDRY	KE5RPO
DAVE REDFEARN	N5ELM
LOUIS ARTON	KE5GLB

Correction:

Last month I had had Steve Morgan and Deborah Morgan listed as KE5UGC and KE5VDK. It should have been KC5UGC and KC5VDK.

3rd Generation Amateur Radio

(from page 3, column 1)

Matthew James Roy, KD5WUQ, 9th Grade

Interacting with other people locally and internationally interested me in Ham Radio. My parents were instrumental in getting me started. My Pastor, Brother Pitre, provided the test site. Although I have been licensed for a while, when my siblings took the recent class, and became licensed it renewed my interest. Since then, I have been making more contacts. As mentioned earlier, I would enjoy getting to know other Hams from around the world, so upgrading eventually will be necessary.

Lauren Rose Roy, 7th Grade

Ham Radio is very useful in emergency situations - that is the part that interested me. Some of my teachers at school are licensed and they told me how great it is. My parents feel learning a new skill, exercises my brain, and I'll feel smarter and happier. Our Pastor, Brother Pitre, plans to get a digital/computer radio for school. Using the school Radio is something I would really enjoy, so I'll need to study and get licensed.



Allison Michelle Roy, 5th Grade

Ham Radio interested me because I would like to talk to people I never met. My brother Robert told us how great it was to be a Ham Radio operator, when we read about the class in the newspaper. My parents think we need to expand our minds in new hobbies. I would love to continue in my studies and get to higher levels in Ham Radio.



The above picture is a group shot of the Apostolic Radio Club (ARC) with the members from the First Apostolic Church / School in New Iberia, Louisiana. Pastor Mike Pitre, WR5U, mentor.

January VE Test Results

Noel J. Talley KC5DIL upgraded to General. Noel traveled all the way from Orange, TX to test.

Christopher R. Mancuso, passed Technician and received the call KE5SAC.

James W. Magin, passed Technician and received the call KE5SAD.

Carl M. Duhon, passed Technician and received the call KE5SAE.

The VEs were:

Charles Morrison KI5XP

Roland Guidry NA5Q

Gerard Murphy KD5VPC

Greg Dolan K5LFT

Albert Fabacher KE5WP

Vermillion Parish ARES

Members of the Vermillion Parish ARES team met Wednesday with the new official at the OEP in Abbeville. ARES operations were discussed, a equipment list was submitted for a possible grant to set up for the operating station at the Vermillion Parish OEP.

After the meeting, the existing antennas and transmission lines were checked.

Special thanks to the following members who took the time and effort to make this happen.

KE5HSX-Dane

KB5WI-Weston

KC5UGC-Steve

KC5VDK-Debbie

N5OA-Robert

Thanks, 73

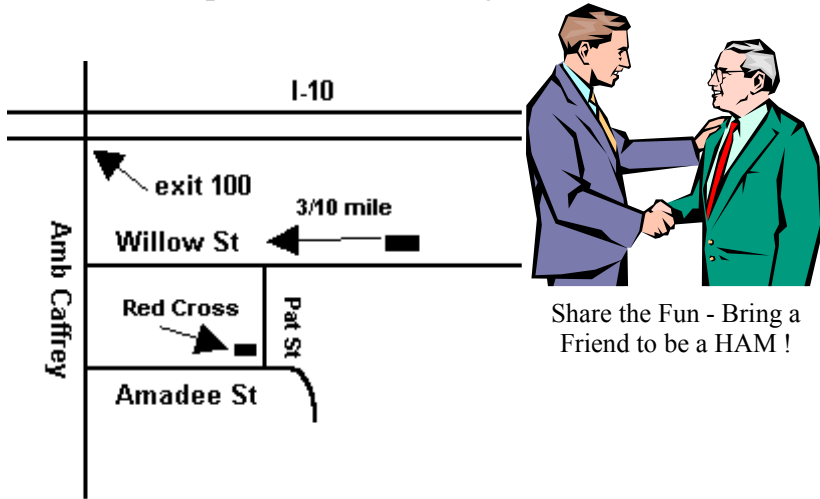
Arnold KE5JXC

EC Vermillion Parish

Check out the Vermillion Parish Emergency Net on the 147.060 repeater in Abbeville each Wednesday evening at 8:00 PM local time.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday February 7, 2008—7:00 PM
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA

**COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE**

Pay your dues if not so done already!

Shrimp Fettuccine Alfredo

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 jars 16 oz Alfredo Style Pizza Sauce | 1 8 oz package fettuccine pasta |
| 1 1/2 pounds fresh shrimp, peeled and de-veined | 1 small package of Mackenzie frozen veggies (such as onion, red peppers, celery) |
| 2 tbsp red pepper flakes | 1 cup butter, melted |

Directions:

In a saucepan over low temp heat the Alfredo sauce. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add pasta and cook for 11 minutes; drain.

Bring shrimp to a boil until they turn orange/pink. Then place in bowl with melted butter. Let shrimp marinate for 15-20 minutes and remove. In a large skillet over medium heat, saute green and red peppers and onions in small amount of oil. Mix together the cooked pasta, shrimp, pepper-onion mixture and Alfredo sauce with red pepper flakes.

Serve with a fresh salad and any fresh bread; French bread is really great with this dish.

Submit your favorite recipes to:

Herman KN5GRK at:
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245